

OCTAX

ORANGE COUNTY
TAXPAYERS
ASSOCIATION

30205 HILLSIDE TERRACE
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675
PHONE (714) 240-6226 • FAX (714) 240-0304

March 25, 1998

APR 01 1998

Mr. Mike Madigan, Chairman
Bay-Delta Advisory Council
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento CA 95814

Dear Chairman Madigan,

The Orange County Taxpayers Association (OCTax) supports the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. This consensus-based, stakeholder-driven process is a good approach to finding a long-term solution to the problems of California's Bay and Delta.

Orange County's taxpayers, various water districts, and water users have made, and will continue to make, investments in local resources (including conservation, recycling, groundwater recovery, reservoir storage, and water transfers) to reduce our dependence on imported water. In addition to these measures, Orange County must have a more reliable supply of high-quality water from the Bay-Delta watershed.

OCTax understands that any solution to Bay-Delta problems will require substantial investments by water users and state and federal taxpayers. OCTax has always urged Orange County citizens to pay their fair share of the cost of water programs. For example, OCTax supported Proposition 204 in 1996, and was featured as an endorser of the measure in statewide campaign literature.

OCTax believes that a CALFED solution must include specific benefits for Southern California. OCTax does not pre-judge the three proposed alternatives (using the existing channels, improving the existing channels, or building a new conveyance). Whichever alternative is selected, it must provide improved water quality and increased supply reliability at affordable cost. Without improved water from the Bay-Delta, to be blended with Colorado River water, Orange County may lose practical use of both sources.

Sincerely,



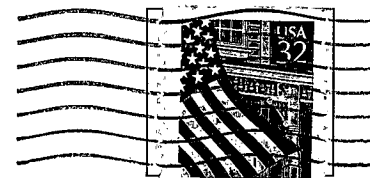
Reed L. Royalty
President

Governor Pete Wilson
Orange County state and federal legislative delegations
Orange County Board of Supervisors
Orange County water districts

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